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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE PCT NATIONAL PHASE PATENT APPLICATION

OF: Karsten BRAEGER et al.

USSN: TO BE ASSIGNED - NEW

FILED: May 9, 2005

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FOR: Method and Device for Actuating at
Least One Wheel Brake Device of a
Vehicle

INTERNATIONAL SERIAL NO.: PCT/EP2003/011402

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 15 October 2003 (15.10.2003)

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May 9, 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

- 1) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 applicants enclose a Form PTO-1449 and make of record the documents listed thereon. A copy of the International Search Report issued in the counterpart PCT International Application on November 18, 2004 is enclosed. A copy of reference AF is enclosed. English Abstracts of references AE to AJ are enclosed.
- 2) Copies of references AD, AE and AG to AL are not and need not be enclosed, because they were cited in the International Search Report and forwarded directly to the USPTO during the International Phase of this PCT application.

3) This statement is being filed concurrently with the above identified new PCT National Phase Application, and requires no fee.

4) References AA to AC and AK are in English. References AE to AJ and AL are accompanied by English Abstracts. Reference AF has been discussed at page 1 of the original specification and reference AI has been discussed at page 1 of the amended specification. Reference AF corresponds to AA, AI corresponds to AB, and AJ corresponds to AC, from which their relevance can be determined in English. Therefore, no further discussion of these references is required.

5) Reference AD (DE 29 11 372) discloses a braking apparatus against unintended rolling or beginning-to-roll of a vehicle. This applies especially against unintended backwards rolling when starting to drive the vehicle up a hill. The apparatus includes an arrangement that recognizes the rotational speed and the rotational direction of a vehicle wheel or a tachometer shaft and emits corresponding rotation signals, a logic device for evaluating the rotation signals of the arrangement as well as further input signals, and at least one magnetic valve actuated by the outputs of the logic device for the operation of the spring storage reservoir auxiliary brake or the operating brake. The arrangement for recognizing the rotational speed and direction preferably consists of a toothed or geared magnet wheel, two sensors, a pulse former stage with directional discriminator and a frequency voltage converter with threshold value behavior. The sensors may be active pulse emitters that are also effective at a speed approximately equal to zero, or magnetic field sensitive pulse emitters or photoelectronic pulse emitters. The logic device can receive, as further input signals, a signal from the transmission in case the reverse gear is engaged, and a signal from a switch that serves to switch-on and switch-off the logic device. The logic device has one or two outputs for actuating one or two magnetic valves. The logic arrangement is embodied so that it outputs a high signal when a

high signal prevails at all inputs other than the input for the transmission, which means that the vehicle is rolling backwards but the reverse gear is not engaged. The output signal of the logic arrangement is provided to the magnetic valve to actuate the brake arrangement.

6) Reference AE (EP 0 251 156) discloses a motor vehicle brake system including a main or master brake cylinder that is acted on by a brake pedal, and respective brake circuits leading from the master cylinder to the wheel brake cylinders. An electromagnetically actuatable brake pressure holding apparatus is provided between the master cylinder and at least one of the wheel brake cylinders in one of the brake circuits. A control circuit including a clutch switch operated by a clutch pedal actuates the brake pressure holding apparatus. A feeler apparatus is connected to the control circuit and includes a rotational position feeler to detect the rotational position of the drive shaft of a vehicle wheel. The rotational position feeler provides a signal indicating a change of the rotational position of the drive shaft to the control circuit, to cause a switching-off of the brake pressure holding apparatus. The arrangement aims to determine the optimum time point for releasing the brake independently of the respective vehicle weight and the respective slope of the street. The control circuit can comprise a time delay element acted on by the clutch switch, such that the time delay element controls the further passage of the signals of the feeler arrangement to a bistable multivibrator stage of the control circuit interposed between the clutch switch and the brake holding pressure arrangement. The time delay element may generate a time window of 1 to 10 seconds, especially 4 seconds. The control circuit may include a pulse holding circuit that receives the output signal of the feeler arrangement. The pulse holding circuit may comprise a time stage that sets a prescribed holding time, or a counter that blocks the output of the pulse holding circuit after a prescribed number of pulses has been counted.

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7) Moreover, the enclosed Search Report indicates the degree of relevance of each of the references AD, AE and AG to AL by category (X = relevant for anticipation or obviousness when considered alone; Y = relevant for obviousness when combined with another document; and E = earlier document published on or after the international filing date). Thereby, a concise explanation of the relevance has been provided (see M.P.E.P. §609).

8) The Examiner is requested to consider all references of record, return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and ensure that all references of record are printed on any patent issuing from this application.

9) Favorable consideration and allowance of claims 13 to 21 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
Karsten BRAECKER et al.
Applicant

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WFF:hc/4875/PCT
Encls.: postcard,
Form PTO-1449,
copy of International
Search Report,
6 English Abstracts,
1 reference

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FIRST IDS LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (FORM PTO-1449) DATED: May 9, 2005				Atty. Docket No. 4875/PCT		Serial No. 10/534328 to be assigned		
				Applicant: Karsten BRAECKER				
				U.S. Filing Date: May 9, 2005		Art Unit:		
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME		Cl.	Sub-Cl.	Fil. Date
	AA	6,009,984	01/2000	Zechmann et al.		-	-	-
	AB	2002-0033642	03/2002	Holl		-	-	-
	AC	2003-0214186	11/2003	Kinder et al.		-	-	-
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	Cl.	Sub-Cl.	Trans.	
	AD	29 11 372	10/1980	Germany	-	-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	AE	0 251 156	01/1988	Europe	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Abst	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AF	196 21 628	12/1997	Germany	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Abst = AB	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AG	198 49 494	03/2000	Germany	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Abst	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AH	199 50 162	05/2004	Germany	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Abst	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AI	100 41 444	03/2002	Germany	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Abst = AB	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AJ	100 63 061	06/2002	Germany	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Abst = AC	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AK	1 225 110	07/2002	Europe	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Engl.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AL	WO 2004-039646	05/2004	PCT	-	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Abst	<input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER DOCUMENTS								
EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE				DATE CONSIDERED				
<small>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>								

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